

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A vehicle seat storage assembly comprising:
 - a vehicle seat including a seat cushion and a seat back pivotally mounted to the seat cushion and pivotable between an extended position and a collapsed position;
 - a cavity beneath the vehicle seat and adapted to receive the vehicle seat with the seat back in the collapsed position;
 - a base supporting the vehicle seat and forming a cover for the cavity, wherein the base is adapted to rotate into the cavity and wherein the cavity includes a track for guiding the base as it rotates to a fully inverted position, whereby the seat is rotated with the base for storage in the cavity, the base further adapted to cover the cavity in the inverted position.
2. A vehicle storage assembly comprising:
 - a receptacle having a side wall, a lower extent, and an open upper extent contiguous with a floor surface within the vehicle;
 - a guide track associated with the side wall;
 - a cover adapted to occupy the open upper extent of the receptacle, the cover incorporating a guide pin adapted to engage the guide track for moving the cover between a first closed position and a second inverted position; and
 - a guide arm connected to the receptacle and pivotally connected to the cover.
3. The assembly of claim 2, wherein the guide arm is pivotally connected to the receptacle at a base pivot and to the cover at a floating pivot.
4. The assembly of claim 3, wherein the floating pivot is symmetrically located on the cover.
5. The assembly of claim 3, wherein the base pivot is above the guide track.

6. The assembly of claim 2, wherein the track includes an arcuate section and a straight section.
7. The assembly of claim 6, wherein the arcuate section has a radius of curvature defined by a distance from the distal pivot to the guide pin.
8. The assembly of claim 6, wherein the straight section is parallel to the lower extent of the receptacle.
9. The assembly of claim 2, wherein the cover fully occupies the open upper extent in both the first closed position and the second inverted position.
10. A method of folding a vehicle seat into a floor of a vehicle, comprising the steps of:
providing a vehicle seat adapted to fold from a seating condition to a collapsed condition, the seat being mounted to a movable section of vehicle floor, wherein:
the movable section covers an in-the-floor receptacle adapted to receive the vehicle seat in the collapsed condition;
the movable section is configured with an outwardly extending guide pin and the receptacle is configured with a guide track for receiving the guide pin; and
the movable section is pivotally connected to a guide bar which is further pivotally connected to the receptacle;
folding the vehicle seat into the collapsed condition against the movable section; and
rotating the movable section so that the guide pin travels along the guide track, wherein the movable section articulates with the guide bar as the pin travels along the guide track, until the movable section is inverted with the vehicle seat in the collapsed condition contained within the receptacle.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein the movable section is further configured be contiguous with the vehicle floor while inverted.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the movable section is further configured to lock in place over the receptacle with the vehicle seat contained within the receptacle.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein the movable section is further configured to lock in place over the receptacle with the vehicle seat in the seating condition.